



# CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 17

## Dry Conditions Hampering Crops and Pastures

Data tables reflect the week ending: **July 25, 2010.**

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2009	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Dough	79	62	61	71
Corn Dented	44	N/A	26	35
Cotton Squaring	86	81	85	87
Cotton Setting Bolls	60	50	33	49
Peanuts Pegged	51	44	41	45
Soybeans Blooming	63	49	41	61
Soybeans Setting Pods	30	N/A	15	30
N/A =Not Available				

### CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	3	11	29	50	7
Cotton	3	6	31	52	8
Peanuts	1	2	35	54	8
Soybeans	3	14	34	43	6
Livestock	0	1	35	56	8
Pasture & Range	0	13	37	44	6

### TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	6.6	16	36	48	0
District 20	6.6	30	59	10	1
District 30	6.5	7	41	51	0
District 40	6.3	15	65	20	0
District 50	6.1	11	50	39	0
District 60	6.1	12	62	26	0
State: Current Week	6.4	17	52	31	0
State: Previous Week	5.6	13	42	44	1

### EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

**General:** Hot, dry weather continued across the state, as crop and pasture conditions decline, according to the US Drought Monitor released July 22. Gina Harris, of Blount County, stated the hot, dry weather impacted all crops. Most of the county received late rain, but in most areas it was not enough. The Drought Monitor also portrayed the state to be 49.4 percent free from drought, compared to 61.3 three months ago, and 60.1 percent a year ago. Daytime highs were from 96 degrees in Sand Mountain and Mobile Bates, to 102 degrees in areas in Northwest, South Central, Southwest, and Southeast Alabama. Overnight lows ranged from 68 degrees in Union Springs to 74 degrees in Huntsville, Birmingham, and Headland. Precipitation

totals varied from barely any moisture in Northwest Alabama, to 1.83 inches of rain in Thomasville over a period of 2 days.

**Cotton/Corn/Peanuts/Soybeans:** Tim Malone, County Executive Director for Lauderdale County, commented they had a good chance of rain this week, which was much needed. Most of the corn was finished, and if the dry conditions continue they may begin shelling corn by early August. Early planted soybeans were in fair condition, but double crop soybeans needed a good soaking rain. Shane Seay, County Executive Director for Limestone County stated corn needed a little more rain to finish progress. Double cropped soybeans were suffering with stands being scattered. Alfred Jackson, Extension Agent for Tuskegee University commented the western region continued to experience hot days with limited rainfall. Locally grown produce was in short supply, and most producers were gearing up for fall planting. Brandon Dillard, Regional Extension Agent for Geneva County stated spraying crops came to a halt last week due to the dry conditions but will probably pick back up. A number of peanut fields have also experienced armyworm damage. William Birdsong, Extension Specialist at the Wiregrass Extension and Research Center, reported the rain was sporadic therefore the rains that had come regularly assisted cotton progress. However, crops are in dire need of moisture where rainfall was deficient. Farmers were spraying for stink bugs in the cotton crop. Infestation levels were moderate with brown stink bug being the most predominant species present. Peanuts look good as a whole but rainfall has been sporadic. They need moisture to move yield potential forward. Some dry land corn looks good while others are a complete loss. The irrigated corn has good yield potential. There weren't many soybeans planted in the Wiregrass area, but the crop was spotty due to limited moisture.

**Fruits/Veggies:** William East, Regional Extension Agent in eastern Alabama mentioned peaches were still being harvested but the blackberry season was over and blueberry season was almost finished. It has been dry but the rain over the weekend helped. Those that can irrigate crops were doing fine, but those that cannot irrigate have lost production.

**Pasture/Hay/Livestock:** Mr. Malone added that pastures have been stressed over the past three weeks because of the lack of rain. Cattle producers may have to begin feeding hay. Mr. Seay noted pastures were beginning to show signs of stress and a good general rain was needed across the county. Gregory Key, County Executive Director for St. Clair County reported pastures and hay fields were withering more from heat stress than lack of moisture. Henry Dorough, Regional Extension Agent for Talladega County noted pastures were displaying signs of heat stress from the extreme temperatures but scattered rain showers in areas of the region have kept forages productive. Kenneth Kelley, Regional Extension Agent for Mobile County mentioned hay production was in good condition although timing of cutting was difficult with seasonal pop up showers occurring. Mr. Dillard added pastures were dried up and producers were feeding hay. Armyworms seemed to still be increasing in numbers as more farmers were contemplating spraying on hayfields.

# ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday July 19, 2010 To Sunday July 25, 2010

Weather Station	Air Temperatures				Precipitation			Precipitation since Jan 1			Avg. 4"	GDD Base 50		GDD Base 60		
	High	Low	Avg	DFN	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	% Normal		Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Total	DFN
District 10 Northwest Alabama - Tennessee Valley 46% of Corn Ac., 45% of Soybean Ac.																
Muscle Shoals	100	70	85	6	0.00	-1.03	0	26.40	-5.79	82	87	246	36	176	36	
Russellville	97	71	84	7	0.00	-1.02	0	23.87	-10.35	70		238	47	168	48	
Belle Mina	102	69	84	6	0.01	-1.04	1	26.90	-6.44	81		241	42	171	42	
Huntsville Ag	100	74	85	7	0.14	-0.96	1	25.46	-9.33	73		247	44	177	44	
Hamilton	102	69	84	6	0.00	-1.09	0	36.25	0.22	101		240	44	170	44	
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 18% of Corn Ac., 21% of Soybean Ac.																
Anniston AP	98	69	84	5	0.29	-0.73	1	26.88	-6.42	81	84	242	32	172	32	
Cullman Ag	100	71	84	7	0.28	-0.81	1	35.26	-0.84	98		241	45	171	45	
Sand Mountain	96	71	82	6	0.20	-0.85	1	27.69	-6.41	81		230	44	160	44	
Gadsden_AP	97	72	83	4	0.35	-0.82	3	24.62	-10.43	70		232	29	162	29	
Bridgeport	98	72	83	6	1.04	-0.15	3	31.24	-4.81	87		235	46	165	46	
Guntersville	98	72	84	6	0.39	-0.71	3	34.38	1.30	104		241	37	171	38	
District 30 North Central Alabama - 7% of Corn Ac., 7% of Soybean Ac.																
Thorsby	101	73	86	7	0.21	-0.94	1	26.62	-8.26	76	88	253	50	183	50	
Talladega	100	70	84	6	0.06	-1.19	2	32.69	-1.85	95		239	42	169	41	
Birmingham_AP	101	74	87	8	0.29	-0.93	3	31.77	-2.09	94		259	49	189	49	
Alabaster	99	71	85	6	0.72	-0.47	2	31.03	-5.38	85		246	39	176	40	
Pinson	98	69	84	7	0.63	-0.50	2	32.42	-2.86	92		238	42	168	42	
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	99	70	84	6	0.20	-1.16	2	31.61	-4.29	88		244	41	174	41	
Alexander_City	101	71	86	7	0.00	-1.26	0	25.82	-9.88	72		253	50	183	50	
Tuscaloosa_AP	100	72	85	5	0.52	-0.74	1	27.52	-6.99	80		248	29	178	30	
Jasper	97	72	84	6	0.80	-0.37	2	41.49	5.61	116		237	41	167	41	
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 7% of Corn Ac., 9% of Soybean Ac.																
Union Springs	102	68	84	5	0.43	-0.80	2	22.43	-12.06	65	92	248	38	178	38	
Marion Junction	98	72	85	6	0.37	-0.74	1	26.79	-7.07	79		247	37	177	37	
Montgomery_AP	102	73	86	5	0.99	-0.19	1	24.36	-8.65	74		253	29	183	29	
Livingston	97	72	84	4	0.75	-0.61	3	37.52	2.19	106		239	22	169	22	
District 50 SW Alabama - Coastal Plain 7% of Corn Ac., 10% of Soybean Ac.																
Bay Minette	97	71	83	3	0.86	-0.94	4	39.75	0.02	100	0	236	19	166	19	
Brewton_AG	102	71	86	7	0.13	-1.48	3	32.80	-6.71	83		257	45	187	45	
Thomasville	97	71	84	4	1.83	0.44	2	30.70	-5.58	85		241	26	171	26	
Mobile_Bates	96	73	84	2	1.63	0.02	4	38.47	1.11	103		240	11	170	11	
District 60 SE Alabama - Wiregrass 15% of Corn Ac., 8% of Soybean Ac.																
Eufaula_Wildlife	100	72	86	6	0.71	-0.47	3	36.40	4.00	112	95	251	36	181	36	
Troy_Municipal	101	69	85	6	0.48	-0.83	2	28.84	-4.15	87		242	32	172	32	
Highland Home	100	70	85	5	0.54	-0.58	3	33.48	-1.52	96		247	37	177	37	
Geneva_Ag	100	71	85	5	0.20	-1.36	2	31.88	-2.97	91		247	30	177	30	
Headland	102	74	87	6	0.06	-1.27	2	29.33	-6.13	83		93	260	43	190	43
Dothan	102	73	87	8	0.60	-0.73	3	29.05	-5.77	83		260	50	190	50	

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Air and Soil Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. PCT of Norm: Cumulative Rainfall since January 1 as a percent of normal (using 1961-90 normals period), 2008. Weather data prepared By AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit [www.awis.com](http://www.awis.com) or call 1-888-798-9955.

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